

**REMARKS**

In response to the Examiner's objection to the drawings, Applicant encloses replacement formal drawing sheets 2/5 and 5/5 in which the plastic portions of Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 have been cross-hatched with alternating thick and thin diagonal lines. The Examiner is requested to acknowledge acceptance of these two replacement sheets as formal drawing sheets for the application.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nishida in view of Barras, as this rejection is now **moot**.

More specifically, the Examiner indicated that claims 4 (4/2), 7, 8, 11, 13, 14 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicant has **canceled** claims 1-3, and amended appropriate ones of the remaining claims 5-16 to be either directly or indirectly dependent on the allowable rewritten claim 4 (1+4).

To accommodate the changes in dependencies, insertions and deletions in some of the claims have been made so that the language of each dependent claim conforms to that of its parent claim and any intervening claim.

New claim 17 (17/4) merely recaptures the limitation of canceled claim 3.

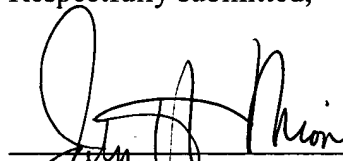
In summary, then, the allowable claim 4 (4/1) has been rewritten in independent form, and all of the remaining claims 5-17 depend on the allowable claim 4. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of claims 4-

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17; however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 4, 2004

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**IN THE DRAWING:**

Applicant encloses replacement formal drawing sheets 2/5 and 5/5 in which the plastic portions of Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 have been cross-hatched with alternating thick and thin diagonal lines. The Examiner is requested to acknowledge acceptance of these two replacement sheets as formal drawing sheets for the application.

Attachment: Replacement sheets 2/5 and 5/5